

US 93 FISH AND WILDLIFE CROSSINGS

39. Mud Creek Tributary Fish & Wildlife Crossing

Ronan - Polson Segment

Mud Creek has been the focus of ongoing stream and riparian habitat restoration efforts by the tribes. The area is used by deer, waterfowl, and fish. This crossing would facilitate fish and wildlife movement.

Design Recommendations

Recommended crossing type: *Corrugated metal pipe or concrete box culvert*

Approximate dimensions: 12' x 22'

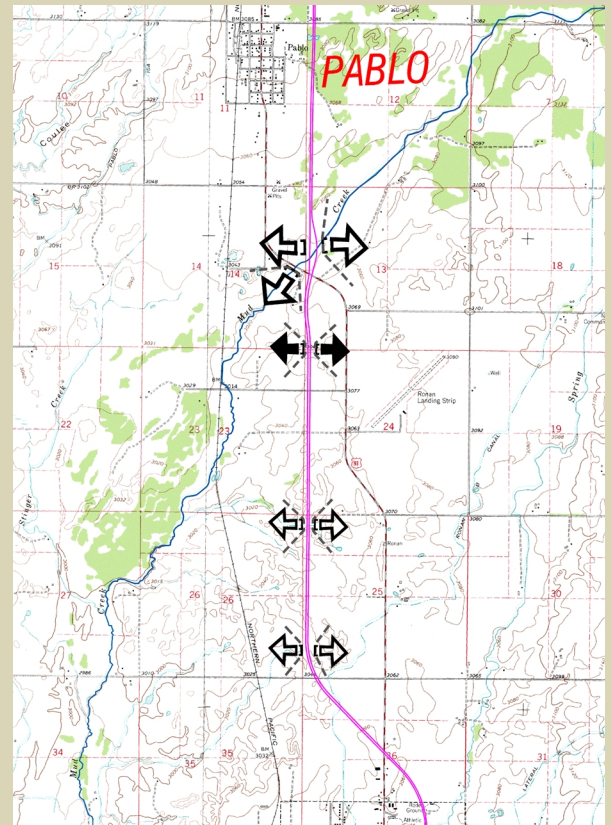
Notes:

Add 8' page wire fencing in a wing pattern (45 degrees to road and approx. 150' in length) to guide wildlife through crossing. It may be necessary in the future to add continuous fencing from Ronan Canal #1 to Mud Creek if monitoring and mortality rates indicate a need.

Restore stream channel and riparian vegetation as per design guidelines.

Criteria for locations of crossings:

1. **Winter tracking** - NA.
2. **Summer Game Trails** - NA.
3. **Road Kill Data** - Tribal data from 1/95-10/98 combined with MDT data from 12/97-1/00 indicated 5 kills in this area.
4. **Habitat** - Grasslands and riparian habitat.
5. **Engineering Practicality** - NA.



US 93 DESIGN DISCUSSIONS

Project Committee:

Evarto to Polson, Montana

Montana Department of Transportation

Federal Highway Administration

The Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation

Prime Consultant: Skillings-Connolly, Inc. - Consulting Engineers

